

REMARKS

In the Office Action of February 10, 2004, claims 1-16 were allowed over the art, subject to correction of certain matters concerning the drawings and specification.

It was said the number "66" was used to designate both a "stem" and "a spring supporting member." Actually, the stem functions as a spring supporting member, but the specification has been amended to associate the number "66" with the word "stem."

It was also said in the Office Action that the number "71" was included in the drawings but not disclosed in the specification. Actually, the item designated by the number "71" in Fig. 4 is a cross section of a shackle described at page 10 first full paragraph in the specification as now made clear by the adding the number "71" and a reference to Fig. 4 which have been added to the first full paragraph on page 10 of the specification.

In addition, the number "58" in Fig. 4 has been corrected to "57" consistent with the other drawings.

It was also said that components 50 and 60 in Figs. 2 and 3 were shown differently. In this regard, the undersigned contacted the Examiner for clarification, and it was determined during a brief telephone discussion that Fig. 3 suggested that part 60 was inserted into part 50 from the top, whereas Fig. 2 showed it inserted from the bottom. Applicant hereby submits a redrawn Fig. 3 with the parts 50 and 60 reversed from the position in the original Fig. 3 and now consistent with Fig. 2.


CONCLUSION

In view of the amendment and remarks, a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-16 is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due, but if any fee is deemed to be due, please charge Quarles & Brady Deposit Account 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

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Reply to Office Action  
Appl. No. 10/813,103  
Page 2

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please find attached hereto a replacement sheet of drawings in which corrections have been made in Figs. 3 and 4 as further explained in the remarks.